

Message Text

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ACTION NASA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 SSO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 RSC-01

DRC-01 /043 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3954

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 14361

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UR

SUBJECT: SPACE AGREEMENT: PHOTOGRAPHER TO ACCOMPANY
ASTRONAUT VISIT

FOR DR. ARNOLD FRUTKIN (NASA/I)

REF: STATE 225178

1. VERESHCHETIN HAS RESPONDED NEGATIVELY TO YOUR MESSAGE
IN REFTEL REQUESTING CONGER ACCOMPANIMENT AS FOLLOWS, VERBATIM:
QUOTE SOVIET AND AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS WILL BE INVITED TWO TIMES,
WITHOUT LIMITATION ON NUMBERS, FOR MEETINGS WITH THE ASTRONAUTS
AND COSMONAUTS AT THEIR TRAINING SITE (I.E., STAR CITY). THE
FIRST TIME WILL BE AT BEGINNING OF THEIR TRAINING, AND THE SECOND
TIME WILL BE NEAR END. PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION OF THE
TRAINING OF THE ASTRONAUTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE SOVIET SIDE
IF NASA WISHES THIS, AND COPIES OF SUCH DOCUMENTATION WILL
BE SUPPLIED TO YOU. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THIS PROCEDURE
IS IN KEEPING WITH THE PLAN THAT WE ADOPTED FOR PUBLIC
INFORMATION (PART ONE). BEST REGARDS. UNQUOTE

2. ABOUT FIFTEEN U.S. CORRESPONDENTS HAVE ACCEPTED
INVITATIONS TO TRAVEL TO STAR CITY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19,
TO ATTEND OPENING SESSION OF ASTRONAUT-COSMONAUT TALKS.
THIS FIRST SESSION WILL CONSIST OF INTRODUCTION OF
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PERSONNEL AND DESCRIPTION OF HOW TRAINING WILL BE CON-

DUCTED. BUT THERE WILL BE NO FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE, AND NO QUESTIONS WILL BE ENTERTAINED. PRESS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TOUR FACILITIES OTHER THAN MUSEUM. FOR SECOND VISIT TO STAR CITY, U.S. PRESS REPRESENTATION WILL APPARENTLY BE RESTRICTED TO POOL OF THREE TO FIVE CORRESPONDENTS, WHO WILL BE SHOWN TRAINING FACILITIES AND HAVE SIMULATED DEMONSTRATION OF THESE FACILITIES. THIS MORE DETAILED INFORMATION WAS SUPPLIED BY VERESHCHETIN WHEN WE CALLED LATER TO CLARIFY ABOVE MESSAGE, AND CONTRADICTS HIS ASSERTION ABOVE THAT PRESS WOULD BE INVITED "WITHOUT LIMITATION ON NUMBERS."

3. AT LAST MINUTE NOV 16 NOVOSTI ADVISED RESIDENT CBS-TV CORRESPONDENT THAT SINCE NOVOSTI NOT A PARTY TO NASA/ ACADEMY AGREEMENT ON PUBLIC INFORMATION IT COULD NOT PROVIDE FILM CREW.
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